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Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>027650-928</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re P	atent Application of) FEB 2 0 2003						
Keiji Y	YANO) Group Art Unit: 3721	TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700					
Applic	ation No.: 09/830,686)						
Filed:	August 3, 2001) Examiner: Paul Durand)						
For:	HEAT-SEALING DEVICE) Confirmation No.: 9925						
	AMENDMENT/REPLY T	RANSMITTAL LETTER						
	nt Commissioner for Patents gton, D.C. 20231							
Sir:								
Er	closed is a reply for the above-identified pa	tent application.						
[X	A Petition for Extension of Time is also	enclosed.						
[A Terminal Disclaimer and a check for [] \$55.00 (2814) [] \$110.00 (1814) to cover the requisite Government fee are also enclosed.							
[Also enclosed is		·					
[Small entity status is hereby claimed.							
[Applicant(s) request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the [] \$375.00 (2801) [] \$750.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).							
	[] Applicant(s) previously submitted _ requested.	, on, for which continued ex	xamination is					
[Applicant(s) request suspension of action exceed three months from the filing of the \$1.103(c). The required fee under 37 (c)	his RCE, in accordance with 37 C						
[A Request for Entry and Consideration (146/246) is also enclosed.	of Submission under 37 C.F.R. §	1.129(a)					
[X	No additional claim fee is required.							

Amendment/Reply Transmittal Letter Application No. 09/830,686 Attorney's Docket No. 027650-928 Page 2

[] An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

	No. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L Fee
Total Claims		MINUS =		× \$18.00 (1202) =	
Independent Claims		MINUS =		× \$84.00 (1201) =	
If Amendment adds mu	ltiple depend	lent claims, add \$28	0.00 (1203)		
Total Amendment Fee					_
If small entity status is	claimed, sub	tract 50% of Total A	Amendment Fe	ee	
TOTAL ADDITIONA	L FEE DUE	FOR THIS AMEN	NDMENT		

Ł	J	A claim fee in the an	nount of \$ is	enciosea.
[]	Charge \$	to Deposit Account No.	02-4800.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

William O. Trousdell Registration No. 38,637

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Date: February 12, 2003



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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 027650-928

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Keiji YANO

Application No.: 09/830,686

Filed: August 3, 2001

For: HEAT-SEALING DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 3721

Examiner: Paul Durand

Confirmation No.: 9925

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 21, 2002, the period for response thereto having been extended to February 21, 2003 by the attached petition and fee for a one-month extension of time, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please note that the following amendments are made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended by the Notice published at 65 Fed. Reg. 54604, 54672 (September 8, 2000). Marked-up copies of the amended claims are attached.

Kindly amend Claims 9, 16 and 22-28, as follows:

9. (Amended) A heat sealing device which moves a tube-shaped packaging material, formed from a packaging material web and filled up with liquid food under a liquid surface of the liquid food, through operation of a seal jaw and a counter jaw, and transversely heat-seals the tube in a seal zone of the tube-shaped packaging material that contains a cutting predetermined zone through softening or melting of plastic material forming the packaging material, the seal jaw and the counter jaw both including an operation surface that is adapted to face the seal zone during transverse sealing under the liquid surface of the liquid food, the operation surface of the seal jaw being a flat surface,

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